

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

Please substitute the following paragraph for the abstract now appearing in the currently filed specification:

A periodical processing time band during which communication is periodically conducted between a plurality of communication terminals and a data bus control apparatus and a nonperiodical processing time band during which communication is nonperiodically conducted between the plurality of terminals and the data bus control apparatus are independently provided, priority communication during each nonperiodical processing time band are determined in advance. Based on a schedule, collection of communication requests to the communication terminals for conducting communication with priority during the nonperiodical processing time band is conducted, and when communication requests from the communication terminals exist, transmission is allowed if data content to be transmitted[[,]] is below or equal to an allocated allowable band, and one variable length packet is transmitted from the communication terminal during the nonperiodical processing time band, and the transmission is suppressed if it is above or equal to the allocated allowable band.